

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 131554
ORIGIN HA-05

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-----096471 240909Z /23

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 131554

FOLLOWING REPEAT PORT MORESBY 0742 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
JAKARTA CINCPAC MAY 19.
QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0742

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, PINS, ID, PP

SUBJECT: IRIANESE REFUGEES

1. NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSIONER MANSFIELD, WHO WAS
RECENTLY ON LEAVE IN WESTERN PROVINCE, STOPPED AT SMALL
AIRSTRIPE ONE KILOMETER FROM IRIAN JAYA BORDER. THERE HE
ENCOUNTERED 76 IRIANESE REFUGEES WHO HAD VERY RECENTLY
CROSSED BORDER ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN FORCED OFF
THEIR LAND BY JAVANESE PEASANTS BROUGHT TO GROW RICE IN
THAT AREA. NO REPORTS OF THIS BORDER CROSSING HAVE
APPEARED IN THE MEDIA. MANSFIELD WAS TOLD BY LOCAL GOVERN-
MENT REPRESENTATIVES THAT BORDER CROSSINGS OF IRIANESE
VILLAGERS FORCED OFF THEIR LAND WAS A GROWING PROBLEM IN
THAT AREA.

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2. COMMENT: WHETHER THIS REPORT OF IRIANESE VILLAGERS
BEING FORCED OFF THEIR LAND IS ACCURATE REPORT OF
SITUATION OR NOT (AND MANSFIELD THINKS IT IS ACCURATE),
SUCH REPORTS AFFECT ATTITUDE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEANS
TOWARDS INDONESIA. FOREIGN MINISTER OLEWALE COMES FROM
WESTERN PROVINCE AND HE IS PROBABLY SUBJECT TO STEADY

STREAM OF SUCH REPORTS WHICH, IN LONG RUN, WILL HAVE
GREATER INFLUENCE ON HIS THINKING THAN JAKARTA'S
BANQUETS.
OLMSTED UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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